



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



January 1996

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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NEW MEXICO, Southeast

NMZ027 **Guadalupe Mountains Of Eddy County**

02	0400MST				0	0			Heavy Snow
	1100MST								

An strong upper level storm moving to the southeast through western New Mexico and Far West Texas supplied the lift to cause heavy snows over the higher terrain of the region. Six inches of snow fell at Queen.

NMZ028 **Eddy County Plains**

17	1030MST				0	0	16K		High Wind (63)
	1800MST								

Winds recorded at 68 and 73 mph on anemometers in Carlsbad. Poles were damaged and some lines snapped. Also a vehicle sustained damage at Carlsbad Caverns.

NMZ029 **Lea**

17	1200MST				0	0	25K		High Wind (57)
	1800MST								

Poles and large trees blown down in Hobbs plus other scattered property damage around town. Winds were recorded at 65 mph in town. In Lovington, six poles were knocked down and part of a porch was thrown about 50 feet.

TEXAS, West

TXZ057 **Van Horn/Guadalupe Mountains Area**

02	0500CST				0	0			Heavy Snow
	1200CST								

Three to six inches of snow fell in and around the city of Van Horn and five inches fell at Guadalupe Pass from an upper level storm system that moved southeastward through southwestern New Mexico and Far West Texas.

TXZ074 **Davis Mountains**

02	0530CST				0	0			Heavy Snow
	1300CST								

Up to 6 inches of snow fell at some of the ranches in the Davis Mountains with 2-3 inches being reported in the city of Fort Davis.

TXZ057 **Van Horn/Guadalupe Mountains Area**

17	0930MST				0	0	250K		High Wind (111)
	2300MST								

A wind event for the history books occurred with a peak wind gust of 128 mph at Guadalupe Pass. The sustained wind was hurricane force from about 1000 am until about 300 pm with a maximum sustained wind of 105 mph. Although the Pass is famous for wind events elderly ranchers in the area said they had never seen the wind blow so hard. The highest winds and most damage occurred in the mountainous zones, however strong to damaging winds occurred over most of the warning area.

During the late morning much of the damage occurred in the mountainous areas, with the most substantial damage near Guadalupe Pass. A list of the more significant reports follows.

At Guadalupe Mountains National Park about 20 vehicles sustained damage such as broken windows and paint being chipped off by blowing rocks. One stationary step van was overturned in a parking lot. The wind also ripped out over 100 feet of chainlink fence and threw picnic tables across campgrounds.

On U.S. Highway 62/180 a double trailer truck was overturned at 1334 MST. Across the highway at a Department of Transportation facility a roof was blown off one building. During the event a coordination call to the site found an obviously shaken gentleman in fear that the roof of his building might give way to the wind at any moment. A series of power generating wind turbines located in a north-south line south of the pass sustained damage as well.

Farther south, in southwestern Culberson County, a fatal vehicle accident occurred in the eastbound lane of I-10, 14 miles east of Van Horn at 1550 CST. the mishap was partially blamed on the low visibilities in the area. A 56 year old South Carolina man was killed when he drove his car into a parked trailer truck which had just been involved in an accident. The Department of Public Safety report stated that visibilities were ranging between 20 feet and 1/4 mile with a visibility of 50 feet being common during the clean up of the accident.



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TEXAS, West									
TXZ074		Davis Mountains							
	17	1100CST 1600CST			0	0	47K		High Wind (66)
Wind gust recorded at McDonald Observatory. Damage in the area included two roofs being blown off near Alpine and part of a roof being blown off a house 10 miles southwest of Fort Davis. In Fort Davis fences were blown down and storage buildings blown over.									
TXZ058		Reeves County And Upper Trans Pecos							
	17	1149CST			0	0	5K		High Wind
A travel trailer was blown over by strong cross winds on U.S. Highway 285 5 miles northwest of Orla.									
TXZ062		Midland							
	17	1200CST 1900CST			0	0			High Wind (52)
The lowest visibility of 3/4 mile was at 1620-1630 CST. The peak wind of 60 mph occurred at 1236 pm CST.									
Across much of the region brief light rain showers were occurring. Combined with the blowing dust, the rain became mud showers. It rained only enough to allow dirt to adhere to vehicles. For weeks muddy cars could be seen driving around the region due to excessively long lines at commercial car washes. A manager at a Midland car wash said that the first week after the mud storm was his busiest on record, more than tripling his usual business. He said that business would have been even better, except that people decided not to wait in the long lines. This same scenario was played out across much of the Permian Basin.									
TXZ050		Andrews							
	17	1220CST			0	0			High Wind (79)
Recorded at the Andrews County Airport.									
TXZ045		Gaines							
	17	1300CST			0	0			High Wind (59)
Recorded at the Gaines County Airport.									
TXZ080		Marfa Plateau							
	17	1430CST			0	0			High Wind (64)
Recorded at the Aerostat site...19 miles west of Marfa.									
TXZ080		Marfa Plateau							
	17	1450CST			0	0			High Wind (55)
Recorded at the Marfa Airport.									
TXZ060		Winkler							
	17	1500CST 1830CST			0	0	35K		High Wind (61)
A 300-foot tall light stanchion crashed to the ground at the Wink Football Stadium. At 1727 CST the peak wind gust of 70 mph occurred at the Winkler County Airport and the visibility was reduced to 3/4 mile from 1509-1640 CST. In Kermit poles were blown down around town.									
TXZ058		Reeves County And Upper Trans Pecos							
	17	1630CST 1730CST			0	0	35K		High Wind
An 80-foot pole holding an Exxon sign at the associated service station in Pecos broke at a joint during high winds and leaned precariously, but did not fall. Also during the height of the winds, travel trailers were blown over, shingles were taken off roofs, power poles were broken, etc. Four car mishaps were blamed partly on the low visibilities during the high winds. At Balmorhea, a carport collapsed on a car.									
TXZ067		Ward							
	17	1700CST			0	0	10K		High Wind (70)



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TEXAS, West

1830CST

A bank sign was damaged and numerous poles were downed in Monahans.

TXZ052

Howard

17 1900CST
2000CST

0

0

10K

High Wind

Windows were blown out of some homes and a carport was blown out into the street in Big Spring.